



Congresswoman Stephanie Murphy  
Remarks as Prepared for Video Recording  
Florida Chamber Foundation  
2017 Military, Defense and Veterans Opportunities Summit  
*August 8, 2017*

Hi, I'm Congresswoman Stephanie Murphy, and I am honored to represent Florida's 7th congressional district.

I want to welcome you all to the Florida Chamber Foundation's annual Military, Defense, and Veterans Opportunities Summit.

As you know, the range of military missions and installations in Florida is unrivaled in the United States. The Sunshine State's contribution to our national defense is the source of great pride for Floridians.

Moreover, defense spending in Florida is directly for nearly \$80 billion dollars—or close to 10 percent—of total economic activity in the state.

I am particularly proud of Team Orlando, a unique partnership between the government, the private sector and academia that uses modeling and simulation to improve training for military service members, and critical civilian employees like police officers, firefighters, health professionals, and teachers.

As co-chair of the bipartisan Modeling and Simulation Caucus in Congress, I am working hard to find new ways for the federal government to support and strengthen this community. And as a member of the House Armed Services Committee, I am working with my colleagues to support the National Cyber Range in Orlando and improve our nation's capabilities in the cyber realm.

In addition to supporting our service members, it is critical that that we care for our nation's military veterans.

There are over a million and a half veterans that call Florida home.

My goal is to fight for our military veterans with the same ferocity they have fought for our country, and for one another.

This means ensuring our veterans can obtain the high-quality physical and mental health services they have earned, and removing any obstacle that stands in the way of this commitment being realized.

This also means helping veterans find good, well-paying jobs. Whether it is starting their own small firm or joining an established business.

Thank you again for your participation in this event – I hope you have a wonderful time.